



A progressive, radically inclusive, anti-racist community

201 West 13th Street, New York, NY, 10011 • (212) 243-5470
www.churchofthevillage.org • facebook.com/churchofthevillage
office@churchofthevillage.org

April 17, 2022 • Easter Sunday

**Honor the Earth / Black Lives Matter
No Human Being Is “Illegal” / No Muslim Ban Ever
Stop Hate Against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders**



***Life Is Stronger
than Death***

WE GATHER

“The land upon which we gather is part of the traditional territory of the Lenne-Lenape, called “Lenapehoking.” The Lenape People lived in harmony with one another upon this territory for thousands of years. During the colonial era and early federal period, many were removed west and north, but some also remain among the continuing historical tribal communities of the region: The Nanticoke Lenne-Lenape Tribal Nation; the Ramapough Lenape Nation; and the Powhatan Renape Nation, The Nanticoke of Millsboro Delaware, and the Lenape of Cheswold Delaware. We acknowledge the Lenne-Lenape as the original people of this land and their continuing relationship with their territory. In our acknowledgment of the continued presence of Lenape people in their homeland, we affirm the aspiration of the great Lenape Chief Tamanend, that there be harmony between the indigenous people of this land and the descendants of the immigrants to this land, “as long as the rivers and creeks flow, and the sun, moon, and stars shine.”

WELCOME

CENTERING AND OPENING PRAYER

*Luke 24:1-9 (adapted from *The Message*)*

On Sunday morning, at the crack of dawn, the women came to the tomb carrying the burial spices they had prepared to anoint the body of Jesus.

They found the entrance stone rolled back from the tomb, so they walked in. But once inside, they couldn't find the body of Jesus. They were puzzled, wondering what to make of this.

Then, out of nowhere it seemed, two persons, light cascading over them, stood there. The women were awestruck and bowed down in worship. But they said,

“Why are you looking for the Living One among the dead? He is not here, he is risen!
Remember how he told you when you were still back in Galilee
that he would be handed over and killed on a cross,
and that in three days he would rise up.

The women left the tomb and broke the news of all this to the Eleven and the rest.

*¡Resucitó!**

**¡Resucitó, resucitó, resucitó, Aleluya!
¡Aleluya, aleluya, aleluya, resucitó!**

**Christ conquered
death and sin forever
when he rose victorious
Glory, Hallelujah**

**So, dream now!
Dream with the impossible
Christ has made it possible
Glory, Hallelujah**

**Look closely!
Something bold is growing
Something new is rising
Glory, Hallelujah**

**It's coming!
Signs are all around us
Signs of resurrection
Glory, Hallelujah**

* ¡Resucitó! = He is risen!

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Corinthians 15:12-20 (The Inclusive Bible)

Tell me, if we proclaim that Christ was raised from the dead, how is it that some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then all of our preaching has been meaningless – and everything you've believed has been just as meaningless. Indeed, we are shown to be false witnesses of God, for we solemnly swore that God raised Christ from the dead – which did not happen if in fact the dead are not raised. Because if the dead are not raised, then Christ is not raised, and if Christ is not raised, your faith is worthless. You are still in your sins, and those who have fallen asleep in Christ are the deadest of the dead. If our hopes in Christ are limited to this life only, we are the most pitiable of the human race. But as it is, Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

This is a word of Hope in New Life.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Life Is Stronger than Death
Pastor Jeff Wells
Lead Pastor, Church of the Village

WE RESPOND

Hear the Good News of Salvation
COTV Choir & Sacred Dancers

Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus is alive!
Christ is healing all creation: Jesus is alive!

*Sing hallelujah, death has been undone.
Sing hallelujah, a new world has begun.
Sing hallelujah, in the rising of the Son.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!*

In the face of all oppression: Jesus is alive!
In the midst of all our questions: Jesus is alive!

WE GATHER AROUND THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

We come before God as beloved children.
Would you join me as we tell the truth about our lives.

Loving God, we confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life you offer, but remain discontent. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement offered in Christ. Call us back to Your ways, to seek restoration and peace. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray.

Amen.

God's love has been poured into our hearts.

Believe this good news and give thanks:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!
Our hearts are lifted!

Let us give thanks to God!
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SHARING THE GIFTS OF GRACE

Friends, this is the bread of life, given for you and for all.
And this is the cup of salvation, poured out for you and for all.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response:

Merciful and gracious God – **Hear our prayer.**

A TIME OF OFFERING

4 WAYS TO GIVE:

- The Vanco giving app, using the link on our website <https://www.churchofthevillage.org> or the Vanco mobile app
- Setting up a direct bank transfer from your bank to COTV's bank
- Mailing a check to COTV's address: 201 West 13th St., NY, NY, 10011
- For those in the church building: Placing your gift in the offering basket in the sanctuary

For help with any of these, send an email to giving@churchofthevillage.org

OR call the church office: 212-243-5470

OFFERTORY

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

BLESSING

CLOSING SONG

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Good ness is strong-er than e - vil. Love is strong-er than hate." The second staff contains: "Light is strong - er than dark - ness". The third staff contains: "Life is strong - er than death. death." Above the notes are various chord symbols: F, F/A, Bb, Bb C, Am7, C, Bbmaj7, C, Bb(add2), C, Am7, Dm, Gm7, F/A, Bb, C7(sus4), C7, 1. F, Bb, C7, 2. F.

W: Adapted from Bishop Desmond Tutu
M: Nehemiah Lockett

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Music © 2017 Nehemiah Lockett. Used by permission.

*Stay online after service for five-minute breakout rooms.
Afterwards, you may continue fellowship in the main Zoom room,
or join breakouts for a discussion with the Preacher or to speak with a Minister of Care.*

To join conversation with Pastor Jeff Wells
type the word **"PREACHER"** in capital letters into the chat.
For those on-site, please go to the Chapel of the Beloved Community,
one floor down by the stairs or elevator.

To talk or pray one-on-one with a Minister of Care, if you are on-site,
you can go to the area by the stairs next to the lobby/narthex at the back of the sanctuary.

If you are online, you can connect with a Minister of Care
by typing **"CARE"** in capital letters in the Zoom chat.

WORSHIP HOSTS

Worship Design Team: Pastor Jeff Wells, Pastor Alexis Lillie, Jorge Lockward, Alfida Figueroa, Katie Reimer

Worship Leader: Katie Reimer

Call to Offering: Reyno Francisco

Dance Ministry: Maura Burns, Martha Chapman, Megan Haungs, Elizabeth Levy, Martine Mallary & Helen Peterson

Ministers of Care: Virginia Riker, Sam Winfrey

Altar Design: Suzie Wilder

Vocalists: Katie Braden, Alfida Figueroa, Reyno Francisco, Riot Mueller, Paul Pillitteri, Katie Reimer, Suzie Wilder, Natasha Wright

Saxophone & Flute: Matthew Willis

Keyboard: Jorge Lockward

Drums & Percussion: Juan Felipe Mayorga

Ushers: Maurice White & Sam Winfrey

Zoom Host: Sarah Witman

Chat Host: TBD

Visuals Host: Danielle Haupt

Sound Engineer: Inti Maldonado

CREDITS

Cover Image: Mourning Light, by Lisle Gwynn Garrity (sanctifiedart.org), Used by permission

Scripture Lesson:

Priests for Equality. *The Inclusive Bible*. Sheed & Ward.

Resucitó

W & M: Kiko Argüello. Additional stanzas by Katie Reimer & Jorge Lockward

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Hear the Good News of Salvation

W & M: David Bjorlin

M: Benjamin Brody & David Bjorlin

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Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

W: adapted from Bishop Desmond Tutu

M: Nehemiah Lockett

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WE ARE THE CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE

The Church of the Village is a progressive and radically inclusive community that is committed to dismantling racism, sexism, and all forms of oppression. The foundation for all of our theology and practice is Jesus’ instruction to “love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and love your neighbor as yourself.”

We seek to build a world overflowing with justice, mercy, kindness, and compassion.

Our church building stands on ancestral lands of the Lenape people. The colonizers who stripped Indigenous peoples of their lands used Christianity to justify their actions. We are beneficiaries of a history of appropriation, slavery, and forced migration. We repent and commit to being a community that seeks to repair the harm done to Indigenous peoples and build new pathways to love and justice.

We celebrate human diversity – welcoming people of every color, nationality, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, physical and cognitive ability, and economic status. We strongly support environmental justice and stewardship of the Earth. We believe many roads lead to God and are respectful of a diversity of spiritual paths. We believe our community flourishes with many points of view, opportunities for creative expression, and participatory worship.

To learn more about The Church of the Village, please complete our [Virtual Welcome Card](#).

You can also submit a prayer request on the Welcome Card form.

We will gladly send you our weekly email newsletter and Daily Inspiration emails.

If you have questions, please contact PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org.

Please follow us on Facebook ([Facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage)), Twitter (@umcofthevillage), and Instagram (churchofthevillage). Check out our YouTube channel for videos of music, worship, Finding Center, and more.

You can also learn more on our website at churchofthevillage.org.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

April 17 – Easter Sunday	10:10am 10:30am	Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live)
April 19 – Tuesday	10:30am 3:30pm – 5:30pm	COTV Online Fitness (via Zoom) TRDP: Food Pantry
April 20 – Wednesday	6:00pm 6:00pm	Bible Study (via Zoom) Speak Out: Advocate for Fair Housing
April 21 – Thursday	6:30pm – 7:45pm 8:30pm	Choir rehearsal L.O.V.E. (via Zoom)
April 22 – Friday	9:00am – 10:00am	Together in Prayer (via Zoom)
April 23 – Saturday	11:30am – 2:00pm	TRDP: Community Meal
April 24 – Easter Sunday	10:10am 10:30am 12:00pm	Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live) Exploring Faith

WE ARE FAMILY

Together in Commitment, Strength, and Mission
Stewardship Campaign

Families give support, and families need support. Here at The Church of the Village, we choose to be family for one another, and we each strive to do our part. Every member of The Church of the Village family has gifts to bring.

The practice of regular giving in any amount recognizes God's abundance and strengthens our family. It builds our relationships with one another and expresses our trust in God's love. It does not matter how large or small the contribution, each donation adds to the flourishing of the family! What's important is that we do this together, with each family member doing their part as they are able. As we hear in 2 Corinthians 8:12:

*For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has,
not according to what one does not have.*

We all work together as members and supporters of our spiritual community to foster the ministries and mission of the Church of the Village. Here are ways you can offer your gifts:

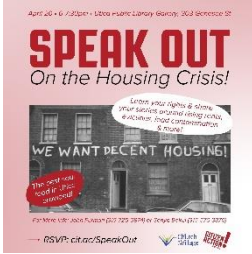
- **ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER/DIRECT PAYMENT** from your bank account to COTV. This option includes no fees for the giver or the church. You can set this up directly through your bank for one-time gifts/payments or recurring gifts/payments to COTV. For assistance with this process, please contact giving@churchofthevillage.org.
- **VANCO:** [Vanco](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app make it easy to give when and where you want.
- **CHECK:** you can send a check payable to "The Church of the Village," and mail it to:
Church of the Village
PO Box 167
New York, NY 10113

For assistance with using any of these methods or to talk about remembering Church of the Village in your will, email giving@churchofthevillage.org. *Please note - emails to this address should be about how we can help you set up your giving process but should NOT include any specific information about pledge amounts, gift amounts, or any other confidential information from the individual sending the message.*

*Thank you for being a part of the family of The Church of the Village
and supporting the work and ministry of this community!*

ADVOCATE FOR FAIR HOUSING

April 20, 2022, 6-7pm



Join Church of the Village and Citizen Action of New York for an event to bring attention to the challenges faced by families in keeping and obtaining affordable and quality rental housing. The Speak Out event will be held in-person in Utica, New York, and live streamed on the [Citizen Action of New York - Central New York Chapter](#) Facebook page as well as on Zoom. You can register at cit.ac/speakout and look out for the Zoom link in your email!

The event will feature fair housing organizers and experts, as well as those who have personally been affected by New York housing policy. Action opportunities will be provided to attendees to continue or begin their own involvement with fair housing advocacy.

UMCOR: UKRAINE



United Methodists and others wishing to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in the wake of the Russian invasion of their country may contribute to Advance #982450, UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries. Visit <https://umcmission.org/umcor/ukraine/> for more information.

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

Friday mornings; 9:00am

Our weekly prayer group includes an inspirational reading, time to support one another, and prayers for ourselves, others, and events in the world. We gather via Zoom conference call Friday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00am (**Meeting ID: 850 0514 7319** **Passcode: 594909**). For more information, contact Deaconess Sarah Capers at smcapers99@gmail.com.

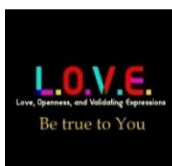
COTV CHOIR

Join us Thursdays 6:30-7:45pm onsite: 201 West 13th St, NY, NY 10011)

and online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86979925984> as we prepare to lead worship in song on Sunday. All voices welcome!

L.O.V.E. (LGBTQA+ group)

1st & 3rd Thursdays; 8:30pm ET



Our LGBTQIA+ group is re-imagined as L.O.V.E (love, openness, and validating expressions!) will meet every Thursday via this [link](#) to discuss a variety of topics, grow friendships, and gather support from one another.

All are welcome as we create a safe space to bring our whole selves, learn from each other, and walk our journeys together. For more information please email PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org.

Join Us via [Zoom](#).

COTV ONLINE FITNESS

Tuesdays, 10:30 am ET



COTV Online Fitness with Lina returns Tuesdays at 10:30 am ET.

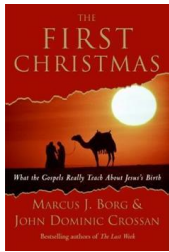
Join us via [Zoom!](#)

Meeting ID: 878 7016 4212

Passcode: fitness

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY: *THE FIRST CHRISTMAS*

Wednesdays; 6:00pm



Our current study, *The First Christmas* by Marcus Borg, examines the Advent and post-Advent stories all the way through Easter that are recorded in the gospels. We are looking at the similarities and differences of each story in the various Gospels. Everyone is invited to join us.

The group meets Wednesdays at 6:00 PM. Everyone is invited to join. Facilitated by Sarah Capers, Deaconess. Join us via Zoom! <http://zoom.us/j/713063594> or by phone: 646-876-9923; Meeting ID: 713 063 594 Passcode: 10011

THE RED DOOR PLACE



Donations, in person, to the program can be made Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, from 9am to 3pm. Ring the bell on the red door on 13th street or call the number posted at the door.

Food Pantry: Tuesdays from 3:30 – 5:30pm. No early line up permitted before 3pm.

Lineup will begin behind the rope at 3pm on the corner of 7th Avenue and 13th Street.

We will continue to hand out bags of food on Saturdays beginning around 11:30am. Guests may arrive earlier to get a place in line; we have chalk marks on the sidewalk at 6-foot intervals to indicate where people should stand at a safe distance.

THE RED DOOR PLACE – NEEDS MONEY FOR FOOD!

The huge increase in unemployment and homelessness means that The Red Door Place has gone from providing food for 1,700 persons before the pandemic, to 2,500 in April, to now more than 4,000 persons every week. TRDP has plenty of volunteers. **What we need is money.** We are desperately trying to keep enough food coming in to give out to every guest. TRDP is one of only a few emergency food programs in Manhattan still giving out a significant amount of food to each guest at the pantry on Tuesdays and still offering a hot meal on Saturdays.

IF YOU WANT TO HELP, ask your employer, your family, your friends to GIVE! Put out an appeal on your Facebook page. Email someone you think would be able to donate.

TO MAKE A DONATION, you can donate online using [VANCO](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app. Or send checks made payable to Church of the Village and write The Red Door Place (TRDP) in the memo line.

Mail to: Church of the Village, PO Box 167, New York, NY 10113.

GIVE TO THE CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE ON VANCO

The Church of the Village is now accessible via Vanco. [VANCO](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app make it easy to give when and where you want. Visit <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YQX3>.

BECOME A CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE PRAYER PARTNER

Each week, we receive many prayers through our website, the Hope for Our Neighbors in Need food ministry, on prayer cards during worship, and from our Ministers of Care team. These prayers are distributed via email to our large team of **Prayer Partners** who lift them up to God. If you would like to pray for others, please email Deaconess Sarah Capers (smcapers99@gmail.com) with your interest. You can submit a prayer online at ChurchoftheVillage.org/prayer.

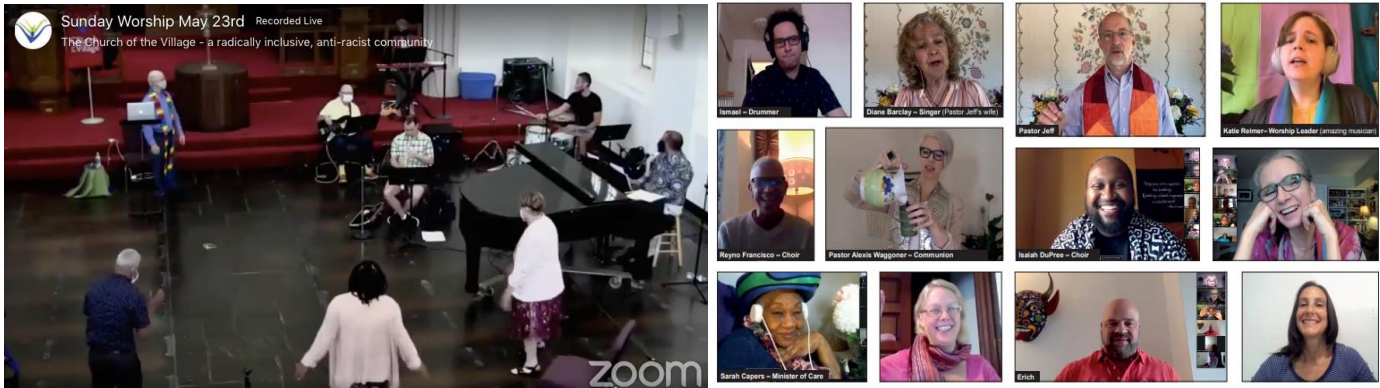
COTV WORSHIP VIDEOS ON FACEBOOK

It is always a deeper experience to be present with the worshiping community, but when you can't join us for Sunday worship, you can view the worship recording anytime at Facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage/videos.

SERMON ARCHIVE

If you missed worship or want to read the sermon again, we post many of our past Sunday sermon manuscripts and worship bulletins on our website at ChurchoftheVillage.org/sermons. We encourage you to read and share them with others.

OUR ADVENTURE IN ONLINE-ONSITE COMMUNITY



The Church of the Village never “closed” during the Covid-19 pandemic because we shifted our entire ministry to be online in March 2020. Then, as the world began slowly to emerge in the summer of 2021 from the worst of the pandemic, there was no thought among the Church of the Village leadership of “going back” to the way of “doing church” before the pandemic.

Our reality and our reach have changed dramatically in a year. We continue to attract worshippers and receive new members from across the U.S. and beyond its borders, as well as from the New York City area. As a faith community, the Church of the Village is no longer tied to a building. We opened to all of our vaccinated members in September 2021 and to the public in December 2021. Currently, we are still practicing masking and social distancing but not requiring proof of vaccination to enter the building.

People are attracted to the Church of the Village because of our progressive theology, radical inclusivity, extravagant welcome, and focus on social, economic, and climate justice. Many who worship with us or decide to join cannot find this sort of faith community where they live.

We believe it is God’s desire that each of us have the chance to have as full a life as possible by seeking the common good in healthy community together. We are committed to building an online and onsite community to reach as widely as possible. With this dream becoming reality, we can re-imagine John Wesley’s vision and say that the whole world, literally, can be our parish.

We encourage you to participate in as many online and onsite opportunities in the Church of the Village community as possible. Consider how you can contribute to the thriving of our lives together. If you want more information on how to connect with Church of the Village, contact [Pastor Jeff Wells](#) or [Pastor Alexis Lillie](#).



How to Contact Key COTV Leaders

During the Coronavirus outbreak and beyond, we want to make sure our members and supporters know how to reach key staff and leaders in the Church of the Village.

Pastor Jeff Wells

Email: PastorJeff@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 9; (917) 604-5227

Pastor Alexis Lillie, Minister for Leadership & Congregational Development

Email: PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 8; (719) 201-6535

Jorge Lockward, Minister of Worship Arts

Email: Jorge@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 7; (917) 723-0169

Teresa Concepción, Executive Program Director, The Red Door Place

Email: Teresa@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 x.5

QuiShaun Hill, Administrative Associate, in the church office

Email: Office@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 x.3

Martha Chapman, Chair, Vision & Ministry Council

Email: marthachapman62@gmail.com

Sarah Capers, Lay Leader

Email: scape131@aol.com

Monica Quintero, Chair, Ministers of Care

Email: quinteromm@gmail.com

Alfida Figueroa, Chair, Worship Committee

Email: figueroarollins@gmail.com